



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

August 7, 2015

Mike Thibodeau, President
Maine Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Mark Eves, Speaker
Maine House of Representatives
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0002

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker,

I have received the letters you sent today in response to my call for immediate action to address the drug epidemic ravaging our state.

Mr. President, thank you for your offer to sponsor legislation to address this issue. We welcome the participation of Republican Senators in our drug summit later this month.

Mr. Speaker, I'm concerned in your response that you continue to ignore the substantial resources my administration has poured into the treatment side of this problem. We spent nearly \$70 million last year on treatment and services for those addicted to drugs.

The refusal to provide the resources that are truly needed to fight the ruthless and well-organized drug traffickers who are peddling powerful and deadly poison only fuels the problem of addiction. It is imperative to recognize the crisis of almost 1,000 babies born addicted to drugs each year and the hundreds of lives being lost. This is a dire emergency that needs to be addressed immediately.

Mr. President and Mr. Speaker, please know that I will use every resource and all legal authority available to me as Governor and Commander in Chief to fight this drug epidemic.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor

cc: Rep. Ken Fredette, House Republican Leader
Sen. Justin Alford, Senate Democrat Leader



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